RATE OF THE STATE OF THE STATE

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) : Examiner: Unassigned
KAZUYA IMAFUKU, ET AL.) : Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/809,478)
Filed: March 26, 2004	;
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD) : June 7, 2004

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

FOREIGN PATENTS:

Patent No.	Country	Publication Date
4-235472	Japan	August 24, 1992

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT	<u>INVENTOR(S)</u>
10/773,328	February 9, 2004	2852	Masao Kato, et al.
10/763,620	January 28, 2004	Unassigned	Kentaro Yano, et al.

A copy of each cited Application is enclosed.

REMARKS

The JP ' 472 reference is cited at page 1 of the specification, and is believed pertinent for the reasons set forth therein. An English translation of the Japanese document is not presently available to Applicants' attorney, but may be provided if required by the Examiner. An English abstract for the JP '472 reference obtained from a commercial database also is enclosed as an English language statement of relevance for the Examiner's consideration.

FEE STATEMENT

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or prior to the mailing of an initial official action. Accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is required. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32,078

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza

New York, New York 10112-3800

Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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FORM PTO 1449	· · · · ·		ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.023517	APPLICA*	TION NO. 10/809,	478
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)		APPLICANT KAZUYA IMAFUKU, ET AL.				
	(Use several sheets if nece June 7, 2004	111N 07 2004	Filing DATE March 26, 2004		GROUP Unas	ssigned
		re , 30	PATENT DOCUMENTS			
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE IS DE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (F APPROPRIATE
	2003/0156196	08/2003	KATO, ET AL.	348	207.2	
	2004/0046990	03/2004	YANO, ET AL.	358	1.15	
	5,589,946	12/1996	SHIMOKORIYAMA, ET AL.	386	47	
	5,682,203	10/1997	КАТО	348	340	
	6,273,535	08/2001	INOUE, ET AL.	347	3	
		F	OREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS		T	
	DOCUMENT DATE NUMBER		COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	4-235472	08/1992	JAPAN			ABSTRACT
	OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					
					7	
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

Sheet	1	of	1

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.